

Night March 20, 2019 to early morning March 21, 2019

1754 Nicole Rodriguez from the USCG is passing along recommendations for TCEQ; she suggests adding information about ITC's proactive and precautionary measures to press releases. These measures include

1. Booming Tucker Bayou and hard booms at the end of Tucker Bayou
2. Adjusting boom constantly
3. Precautionary boom at battleship, booms at San Jac Park for Sananta (sp?) Bayou

~1752 80-5 tank with Xylene ignited; took 27 seconds to put out
80-8 had hot spots
The fire fighting foam had perchloro[not overheard]-acid in it
EPA sampling Buffalo Bayou tomorrow
EPA also did sampling today
TPWD asked for boom of battleship earlier today by notifying the Coast Guard of their request
Benzene hits in neighboring facilities, e.g. Clean Rivers, 0.5-2.0, 2.5 average at Clean Rivers
Facilities couldn't take samples due to Benzene in some places

1803 4 items +p.phos will be sampled by EPA (turn around for samples estimated 5 days)
Will be an inversion tonight - if EPA gets hits on benzene they will sample
There will be EPA guys on Coast Guard boat tomorrow sampling
Galena Park meeting (with Environmental Justice?) happening now

1817 EPA contractor Weston back from field, report Outfall 003 open and water pouring out
ITC previously today claimed they closed the outfall
80-8 and 80-5 tanks have hot spots
Outfall goes into Tucker Bayou, there are 4 booms before water reaches the ship channel
SCAT - shoreline cleanup assessment team
Coast Guard Nicole asks if we have anyone out there doing SCAT

Before Noon Elevated benzene at location (incident location)
7,11,14 have no roof
Nicole Bealle: "They are consciously making an effort to not stop the flow of water"

1854 No skimmers observed, no vac trucks (confirm?) vaccing out of Tucker Bayou, no night activity occurs (confirm?)
Some haziness on who was/is doing what (Coast Guard/ITC?)
Michael from Weston reported the open outfall 003
Two tanks without roof and product in them(?)

1920 P.phos and p. foe (sp?) will be tested by EPA tomorrow (@ Buffalo Bayou)
37.1 method (?)
TCEQ contractor got a sample of foam
N.Bealle - request to ask for Coast Guard vessel to be made available
N.Bealle - What are the labs to be used?
N.Bealle - What are the methods?
N. Bealle - What was the quantity of water + foam used?

1933 Reed McClellan and Mike Gaudet from ITC meeting
Flare-up, no additional fire after the event
No activity that a person was doing that caused it

1935 "Outfall has not been reopened" - Mike Gaudet
EPA Steve Mason - request to go verify if outfall open/closed

ITC Mike Gaudet - lots of pipes right there; not sure what pipe that is, confirmed assessment that it appears to be pouring out
 ITC previously stopped sampling, but now resumed to every 2 hours
 1938 TCEQ/EPA asks (Kendra and Steve) Where are skimmers and vac trucks?
 ITC Mike Gaudet made comment saying vac trucks were out there
 ITC Mike Gaudet not aware of skimmers being deployed; "definitely supposed to be vac trucks"
 TCEQ requests flow rate of outfall
 TCEQ requests volume secondary container will hold
 TCEQ requests volume of foam
 ITC Mike Gaudet says they should have that
 TCEQ requests volume of water
 ITC Mike Gaudet does not know if he can get fire water amounts
 TCEQ asks if outfall is open, what sparked that opening?
 ITC Mike Gaudet was not aware of outfall being potentially open
 ITC Mike Gaudet:
 Tonight scheduled to move product from 80-7
 Priority is Pygas due to the nature of the product
 Have empty tank to move product to; 100-28
 Will use a 4" line; so it's going to move slowly (estimated to be 2 days)
 EPA asks what's in secondary containment
 ITC Mike Gaudet says can't deal with that right now
 "it's not full of water; it's maybe about 1 foot"
 There's open top tanks and leaking pipes requiring foam application;
 must hold what they've got
 TCEQ says product is being observed in ditch
 ITC Mike Gaudet is unsure whether pics of ditch are pics of product
 ITC Mike Gaudet says boom boats and Oil-Mop (sp?) is supposed to handle that;
 supposedly today and everyday
 TCEQ indicates that boom was out of water
 ITC Mike Gaudet says Oil-Mop in charge of that and that someone from
 ITC was supposed to be overseeing
 TCEQ suggests to make sure that this is the case
 ITC Mike Gaudet says maybe 2 tanks, 100,000 gallon tanks are available (empty)
 to pump product in
 80-1, 80-4 do not pose a concern that the others do so long as leaks can be
 stopped
 1955 TCEQ/EPA informed change of putting q's in writing
 214-789-1871 Steve Mason EPA
 214-202-6952 contact info for ??? with EPA
 ITC planning to put foam blanket on open roof tanks
 TAGA bus tomorrow to go to area of that meeting, take pic in front of church
 2151 Facility rep confirmed outfall 003 not open
 They think it might be coming from surface water drainage
 EPA: overspray? Outside secondary containment runoff, surface runoff from
 ditches
 Facility still contemplating putting "wastewater" from secondary containment
 through wastewater treatment plant (biological) but say they prefer not to
 Nicole Morris informed them at the very least they'd need approval from
 TCEQ, first
 Jack Coleman says no boat or activity occurring "out there"
 Oil-Mop meeting within next hour indicating by tomorrow morning there would
 be a much greater presence

Nicole Bealle suggests sampling tomorrow and securing Coast Guard boat;
discussion between TCEQ & EPA on “divide and conquer” sampling or side-
by-side sampling
7.38 million gallons capacity of secondary containment 175,000 barrels
They have about 2 foot of freeboard left which may be ~70,000 barrels
Still in firefighting mode, in the last three hours foam 4 times. Every 4 hours it’s
18,000 barrels foam and water
Facility asks to discharge from Outfall 003 due to concerns about amount of
water in secondary containment
They hope that foam and oil will float and they would only discharge the bottom
layer - mostly water, allegedly
Pumping 80-7 update has suggested faster than 2 days
Facility worries that tanks that aren’t on fire might be leaking.
ITC is getting an inventory of every foam used, will take a sample of every type
of foam and will analyze for p. phos.
Ordered containers, will be here tomorrow
EPA had to get special containers, too. Five day turn around.
Facility hoping to pump all water from secondary containment to tank, add some
fresh water because the water is brackish and the brackish might kill the plant
Nicole Bealle: They will have to talk to water permits, it has a lot of
product in it, may need to be analyzed; it’s a RCRA waste
The facility prefers to pump to a barge and dispose of it.
530 readings of benzene but 0 hits; but hits been detected at industry
Facility is going to work on releasing additional data; i.e. the industrial benzene
readings
2341 ITC Mike Gaudet (normal title: Environmental Compliance) comes in to give
update
Transferring product - some snags, in the last hour they are trying to regroup
and move to some different tanks (i.e. not the 80-7 pygas), going to start
moving product to 80-18 tank (gone through hydrostatic test and needs a
little extra testing to be sure it is clear of water)
Surface drain is the discharging point, no sampling at the point but sampling is
happening downstream
Trying to start moving product to the new tank tonight; original plan had issues
with valve
Control releases - TCEQ suggests sample within a reasonable time, for
contaminants which could be found in the facility as well as metals and TSS
ITC developing plan on what to do with water in secondary containment.

Night March 21, 2019 to early morning March 22, 2019

- 1852 Discussion of where to position EPA/TCEQ (upstairs/downstairs) as well as
debriefing by on site TCEQ/EPA people, Adam (EPA), Steve (EPA), Tina (TCEQ),
Nicole Bealle (TCEQ)
- 1859 Night ops meeting @ 1900
Next meeting at 0700
- 1910 In attendance: Coast Guard, TCEQ, ITC, Sheriff Harris County, Harris County Fire
Marshal (Richard Lawhorn), Houston Fire Department, Harris County Pollution
Control, CTEH will be added tonight (EPA representative not in attendance)
Carl Holly ITC Incident Command; Hector Kadina (sp?) ITC Deer Park on scene
coordinator
Weather - high pressure to the west, keeping wind from north blowing south,
eventually the high pressure will calm winds to nothing, then wind moving
north around 3/3:30pm tomorrow

CTEH team will be set up in the kitchen, air monitoring and sampling/disposal plans

Operations: Fire suppression team: currently adding foam every hour for 20/25 minutes in the area, will continue tonight, until start removing product to 80-7 to 80-18. Will lower submersible pump into 80-7 and pump into 80-18. Hope to have it going within the next couple hours.

Containment and recovery: spill booms, skimmers, taking sampling, flew drone, looking into doing more booming and relocation of booming, resources at risk have protection booming, CTEH developing a resources at risk list.

Checkpoints have been established with police officers, full accountability of work area "hot zone". Three checkpoints total (to the south, and west). Two staging areas. Loading area for foam.

Air operations: Bryce Allen (organization unknown at this time) air ops temporary flight restriction area (1000 feet) 220 air operations summary being created, flight schedules being evaluated. Will do infrared filmography to determine hot spots when tank "punched", "no promises" hope to stream it to EOC.

Objectives (in priority order)

- 1) Safety of personnel and public – security guards and checkpoints, air and water monitoring
- 2) Public health and wellbeing – air and water testing
- 3) Fire suppression – foam blanket
- 4) Conduct damage/stability assessment, develop and implement water removal plan
- 5) Ensure undeterred maritime transportation
- 6) Maximize protection of environmental and socially sensitive areas
- 7) Keep the public, stakeholders, and the media informed

Constraints: weather conditions, air monitoring exceedances, location of incident, availability of resources, permits, access to shoreline (private land), spilled material characteristics, public health, disposal of waste

"2nd 80's Fire" incident name

Environmental Unit Leader – CTEH

"Section chiefs have full authority on filling positions; however, ensure agencies are integrated into the organization"

30 minutes prior to release all external releases of information should be approved

Air monitoring Deer Park, Pasadena and La Porte to ITC Portal but to TCEQ and EPA two hours in advance

Immediate reporting:

Injury or death, anything greater than first aid

Air monitoring exceeding action levels

Public health impacts

Any loss of major tactical resources

<and others with immediate safety or resource concerns>

10am press conference, no press release written at this time, request for TCEQ/EPA to push it up in the morning as soon as possible.

Public Information Officer (ITC) has safety concerns with regards to personal safety from the public (police escort requested by PIO)

Liaison Officer Deer Park supposed to have a representative on site (EOC) tonight, probably someone from police department

Going to start trying to pump material out, if emissions come up, need to notify surrounding area but also EOC's

Identify and order the appropriate type of defoamer to prevent foaming in tank 50-2 when liquids are recovered from the ground

Remove Pygas from 80-7, started pumping to 80-18 but have lost prime multiple times, stopped at 1046

ITC to meet with Operations at 00:15 on 3/21 to develop a plan to handle water waste, planning to pump containment area to 100-28 with potential to go to other tanks and potential to go to 80-18, all resources in route.

Identify timeline for next media release, no schedule in place right now but working on it

Schedule a meeting with Deer Park to discuss action levels for air monitoring (did meet earlier this evening, but ongoing) will be representative on site from Deer Park EOC

Obtain radios that will allow ICP to speak to field personnel - complete

Flare up on first 80's manifold, now extinguished and foam being applied (between 80-3 and 80-6 tanks)

Engage NWS to provide forecasts (has been requested)

Helen Environmental lead working on Waste management plan, other plans

Rapid Assessment Plan is complete and with Agencies

Need to move totes of foam out of hot zone to try to sample the foam

ITC employees can't get to work in a shelter in place order

No night operations (water) as of yesterday

Skimmers: 2 (as of this morning)

Vac trucks: 4 (one 150 barrel, four 70 barrel)

Fire is back under control, knocked back down by foam blanket

Breezy out of Southeast right now, will turn Southwest

1952 Discussion of recording data and reporting of air monitoring equipment

Talk with mayor to refine action level suggested (EPA/TCEQ)

2013 Road closures causing logistical issues with transportation

2029 As investigations begin notification will be provided.

2116 Booster pump connection issues, as with Tank 80-8

2202 8 to 10 flange found, working through problem with booster pump connection

2215 Jordan Baldueza switches in for Coast Guard

2233 Benzene smell around Federal Road - Sheriff Harris County (train (sp?) crew smelling benzene Watco on Federal Road down by tunnel, no shelter in place currently in place (1710 Federal Road)